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ACTION EA-12
INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
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USIA-06 TRSE-00 EB-08 ACDA-07 IO-13 DHA-05 /092 W
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/GDC/MR
REVIEWED BY BAFleck DATE 2/12/80

P R 2009087 SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6519
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
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CINCPAC FOR POLAD
E.O. 11652: N A
TAGS: SOPN PINT KS US
SUBJ: KOREAN PRESS COVERAGE OF PAK TONG-SON CASE
REF: (A) SEOUL 7944 (DTG 190848Z SEP 77)
(B) SEOUL 7947 (DTG 190858Z SEP 77)

SUMMARY: ROK PRESS CONCENTRATES ON PAK-VANCE FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING TOMORROW AND ON ROKG DENIAL THAT IT HAS BOOKED KIM HYONG-UK. TONGA FOLLOWS LAWYER HUNDLEY'S ACTIVITIES HERE WHILE HAN'GUK ILBO CONTINUES EMOTIONAL CRITICISM OF U.S. NOTED OVER WEEKEND ELSEWHERE. END SUMMARY.

1. ON SEPTEMBER 20, REPORTING IN KOREAN VERNACULAR PRESS ON PAK TONG-SON AFFAIR WAS FOCUSSED AROUND MEETING TOMORROW MORNING (KOREA TIME) BETWEEN FONMIN PAK TONG-JIN AND SEC STATE VANCE. ALL PAPERS CARRIED FRONT-PAGE ARTICLES MENTIONING THAT FOREIGN MINISTERS WOULD DISCUSS PAK CASE AND PLANS FOR U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL. SOME OF

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AFTERNOON PAPERS QUOTED STATEMENT BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN RESTON (PHONETIC) THAT MEETING WAS ARRANGED HURRIEDLY AT ROKG REQUEST (ALTHOUGH REPORTING HERE THROUGH LAST NIGHT INDICATED MEETING HAD BEEN ADVANCED AT U.S. REQUEST). KYONGHYANG SINMUN SAID FONMIN PAK WOULD MEET ADVISOR BRZEZINSKI AFTER MEETING SECSTATE. CHUNGANG ILBO AND SEOUL SINMUN, QUOTING REPORTS FROM SEOUL, SAID PAK MIGHT MEET SPECIAL COUNSEL JAWORSKI.

2. WITH REGARD TO TONGA ILBO'S SCOOP OF YESTERDAY (REFTEL A), GOSSIP COLUMNS IN CHOSON ILBO AND SEOUL SINMUN CARRIED DENIAL BY MINISTER OF JUSTICE YI SON-JUNG THAT PROSECUTORS HAD BOOKED FORMER KCIA DIRECTOR KIM HYONG-UK FOR VIOLATIONS OF ANTI-COMMUNIST AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE LAWS. MIN. YI EXPLAINED KIM HAD BEEN AUTOMATICALLY BOOKED ONBASIS OF TWO SUITS FILED AGAINST HIM FOR DEFAMATION OF CHARACTER. VICE FONMIN YUN HA-JONG WAS QUOTED AS SAYING FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD RECEIVED NO REQUEST FROM JUSTICE MINISTRY TO

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REQUEST USG FOR RETURN OF KIM.
3. TONGA ILBO ITSELF DID NOT REPORT THESE DENIALS, BUT INSTEAD RAN SMALL PIECE ON FRONT PAGE REPORTING THAT PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE HAD SUMMONED DUP LAWYER YI MYONG-HWAN ON SEPTEMBER 7, ASSEMBLYMAN KIM KYONG-IN ON SEPTEMBER 8, AND VISITED DUP HEAD YANG IL-TONG IN HOSPITAL SEPTEMBER 9. ALL FOR QUESTIONING IN CONNECTION WITH DUP'S SUIT AGAINST KIM. TONGA ALSO FRONT-PAGED A SMALL REUTERS ARTICLE NOTING SENATE ETHICS COMMITTEE HAS NAMED VICTOR KRAMER (PHONETIC) AS SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR ITS INVESTIGATION OF PAK AFFAIR. IN LOCAL ARTICLE ON LAWYER HUNDLEY'S ACTIVITIES, TONGA NOTED THAT HE HAD MET SEPTEMBER 19 WITH PAK TONG-SON
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FOR THIRD DAY IN A ROW AND THAT HE PLANS TO MEET WITH OFFICIALS IN SEOUL DISTRICT PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE WHO QUESTIONED PAK AND WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS DISCUSSING CASE WITH U.S. BEFORE LEAVING KOREA AROUND SEPTEMBER 22.
4. HAN'GUK ILBO FRONT-PAGED SMALL TONGYANG ARTICLE FROM TOKYO NOTING TOKYO SHIMBUN 9/19 HAD SAID U.S., IF IT WANTS TO MAINTAIN ROK-U.S. RELATIONS, MUST AVOID STIMULATING ROKG EXCESSIVELY. AS IT MIGHT CAUSE AN EXPLOSION OF ANTI-U.S. EMOTION. AS IF TO ILLUSTRATE THIS, PAPER RAN FEATURE ON PAGE THREE BY POET YI WON-SOP WHICH CRITICIZES U.S. FOR EXCESSIVE ATTENTION TO PAK CASE AND FOR WESTERN HAUGHTINESS AND PREJUDICE IN PLACING ITSELF HIGHOT#AND JUDGING OTHERS TOO SEVERELY. YI STATES U.S., IN VIEW OF ITS TREATMENT OF INDIANS AND BLACKS, IS NOT QUALIFIED TO SPEAK OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND MORAL DIPLOMACY AND CONCLUDES WITH HOPE U.S. WILL FORSAKE SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR MODESTY AND RECOGNIZE AS ITS TRUE FRIEND ONLY COUNTRY IN WORLD THAT HAS NEVER SAID "YANKEE GO HOME".
SNEIDER
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